

STAFF DISCUSSION

Going Deeper

PART #1

Scripture Reflection

STEP ONE

As a staff, take a few moments to sit in total silence. Silence is a rare commodity and central to how God speaks with us.

STEP TWO

After some time in silence, have one person read the following scripture aloud:

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 10 1- 6

"VERY TRULY I TELL YOU PHARISEES, ANYONE WHO DOES NOT ENTER THE SHEEP PEN BY THE GATE, BUT CLIMBS IN BY SOME OTHER WAY, IS A THIEF AND A ROBBER. THE ONE WHO ENTERS BY THE GATE IS THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP. THE GATEKEEPER OPENS THE GATE FOR HIM, AND THE SHEEP LISTEN TO HIS VOICE. HE CALLS HIS OWN SHEEP BY NAME AND LEADS THEM OUT. WHEN HE HAS BROUGHT OUT ALL HIS OWN, HE GOES ON AHEAD OF THEM, AND HIS SHEEP FOLLOW HIM BECAUSE THEY KNOW HIS VOICE. BUT THEY WILL NEVER FOLLOW A STRANGER; IN FACT, THEY WILL RUN AWAY FROM HIM BECAUSE THEY DO NOT RECOGNIZE A STRANGER'S VOICE.

STEP THREE

Now, take a few moments in silence and the read it one more time.

Questions for Discussion

STEP ONE

Was this week message confronting in any way? How do we feel as a staff about speaking with the voice of the one who sent us? Does that seem restrictive in some sense?

STEP TWO

As a staff what are the one or two key messages you hope that your students might hear from the one shepherd during their time with you? What are we doing to make this happen? Could we be doing more?



"WHEN JESUS SAW THE CROWDS, HE WENT UP ON THE MOUNTAIN; AND AFTER HE SAT DOWN, HIS DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM. HE OPENED HIS MOUTH AND BEGAN TO TEACH THEM... "

MATHEW 5:2

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PART #2

STEP ONE

Take a moment to read the following quote:

"ABOVE ALL, THEY WILL NOT TRY TO INCULCATE THEIR PERSONAL OPINIONS AND OPTIONS AS IF THEY EXPRESSED CHRIST'S TEACHING AND THE LESSONS OF HIS LIFE. EVERY CATECHIST OR TEACHER SHOULD BE ABLE TO APPLY TO THEMSELVES THE MYSTERIOUS WORDS OF JESUS, "MY TEACHING IS NOT MINE, BUT HIS WHO SENT ME.""

POPE JOHN PAUL II - CATECHESI TRADENDAE

STEP TWO

Similar to some of Jesus words in the Gospel the quote above can seem quite challenging. How do we strike a balance between ideas or opinions we hold dearly and the words of Jesus Himself? What can we do both individually and as a staff to close the gap so that our words and His are the same?



"TRUTH IS NOT DETERMINED BY A MAJORITY VOTE.."

POPE BENEDICT XVI

Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Give us the grace this week to try in small ways to be more attentive to your voice through moments of silence, scripture, sacrament and prayer.

Help us, we pray, to grow ever more into your likeness so that we may speak your word authentically to our students

We ask this in your name.

Amen